

INVINCIBLE IRON MAN™

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS • STEFANO CASELLI • MARTE GRACIA



MARVEL

#2

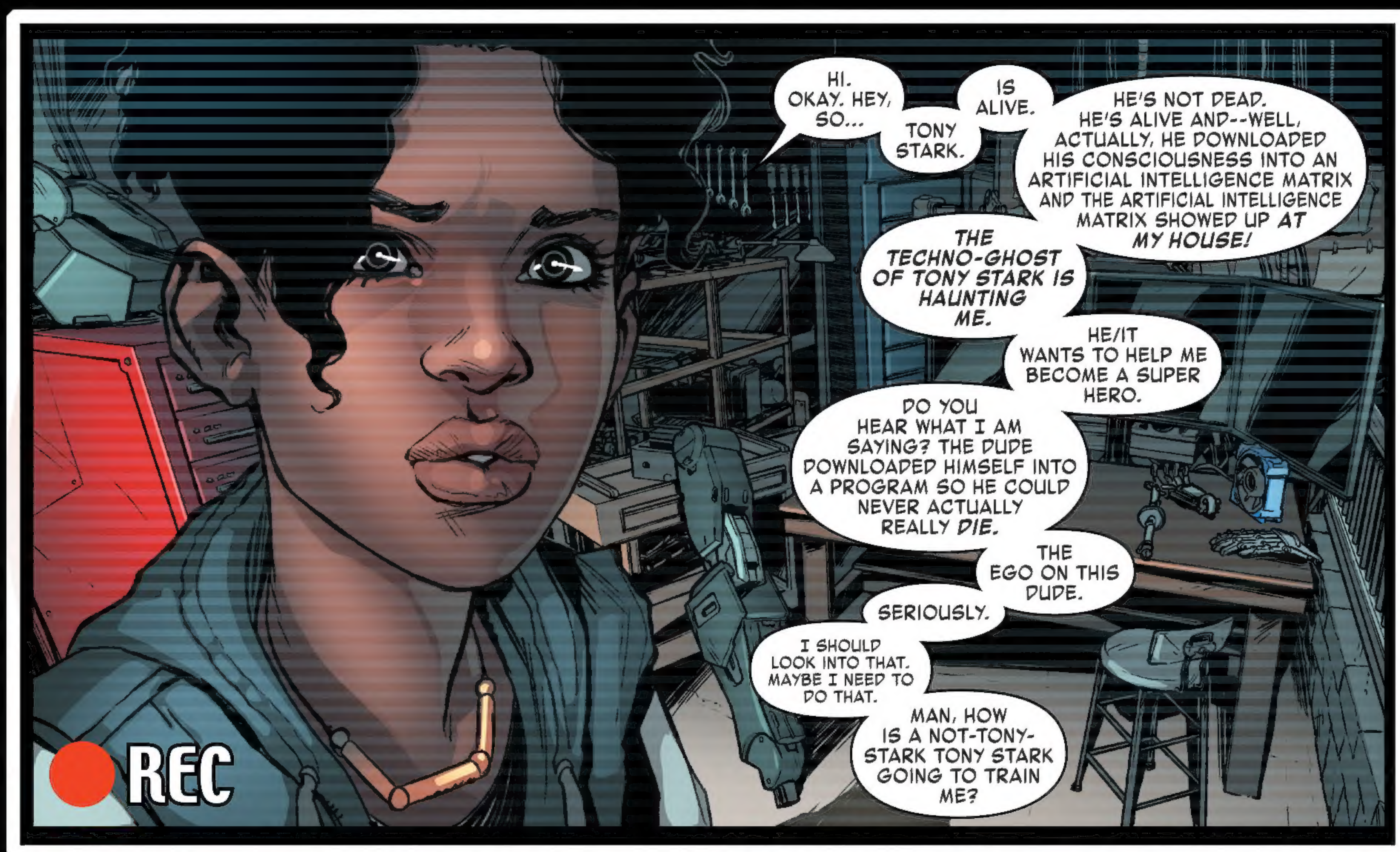
INVINCIBLE IRON MAN

**BRIAN
MICHAEL BENDIS**
WRITER

**STEFANO
CASELLI**
ARTIST

**MARTE
GRACIA**
COLOR ARTIST

**VC's CLAYTON
COWLES**
LETTERER



STEFANO CASELLI & MARTE GRACIA **COVER ARTISTS**

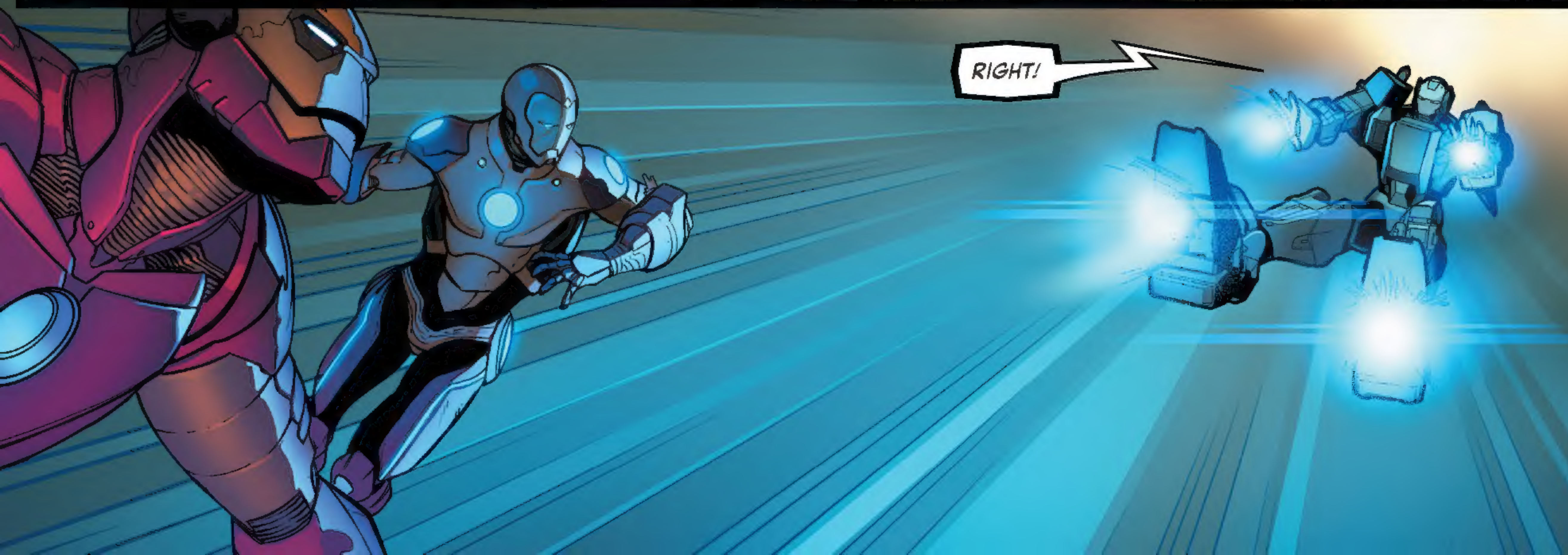
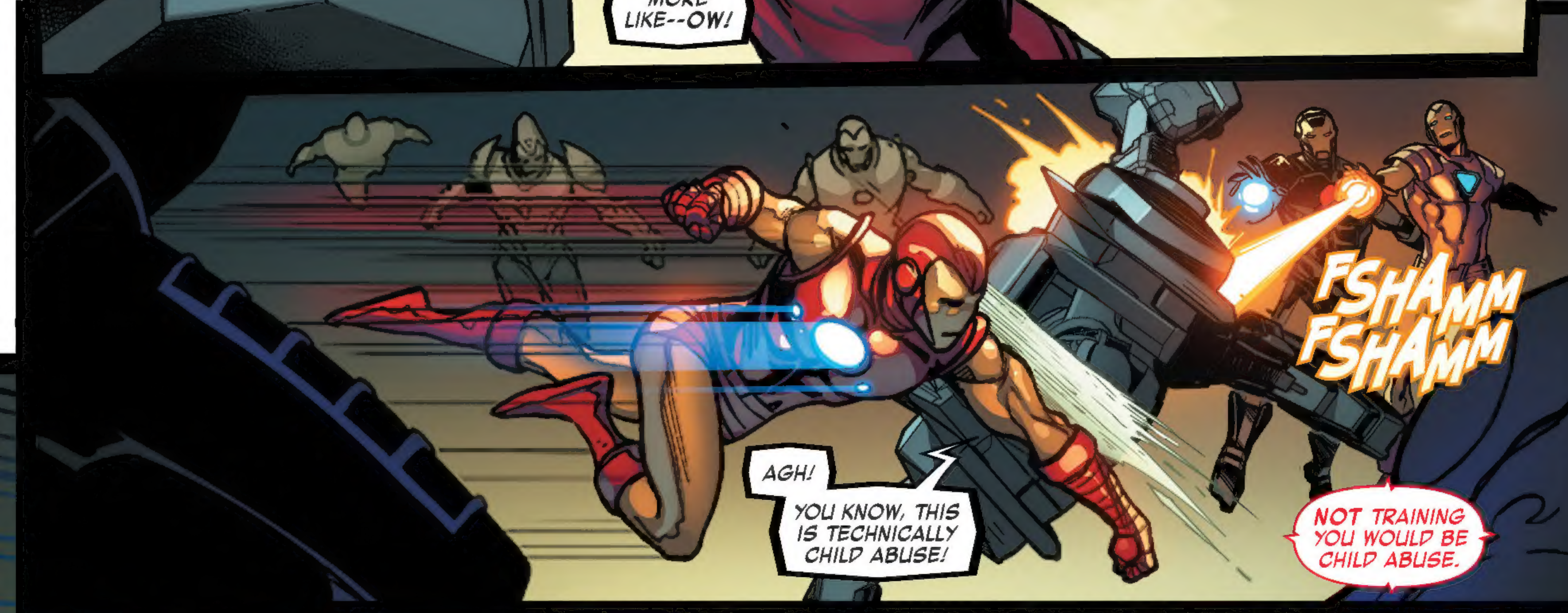
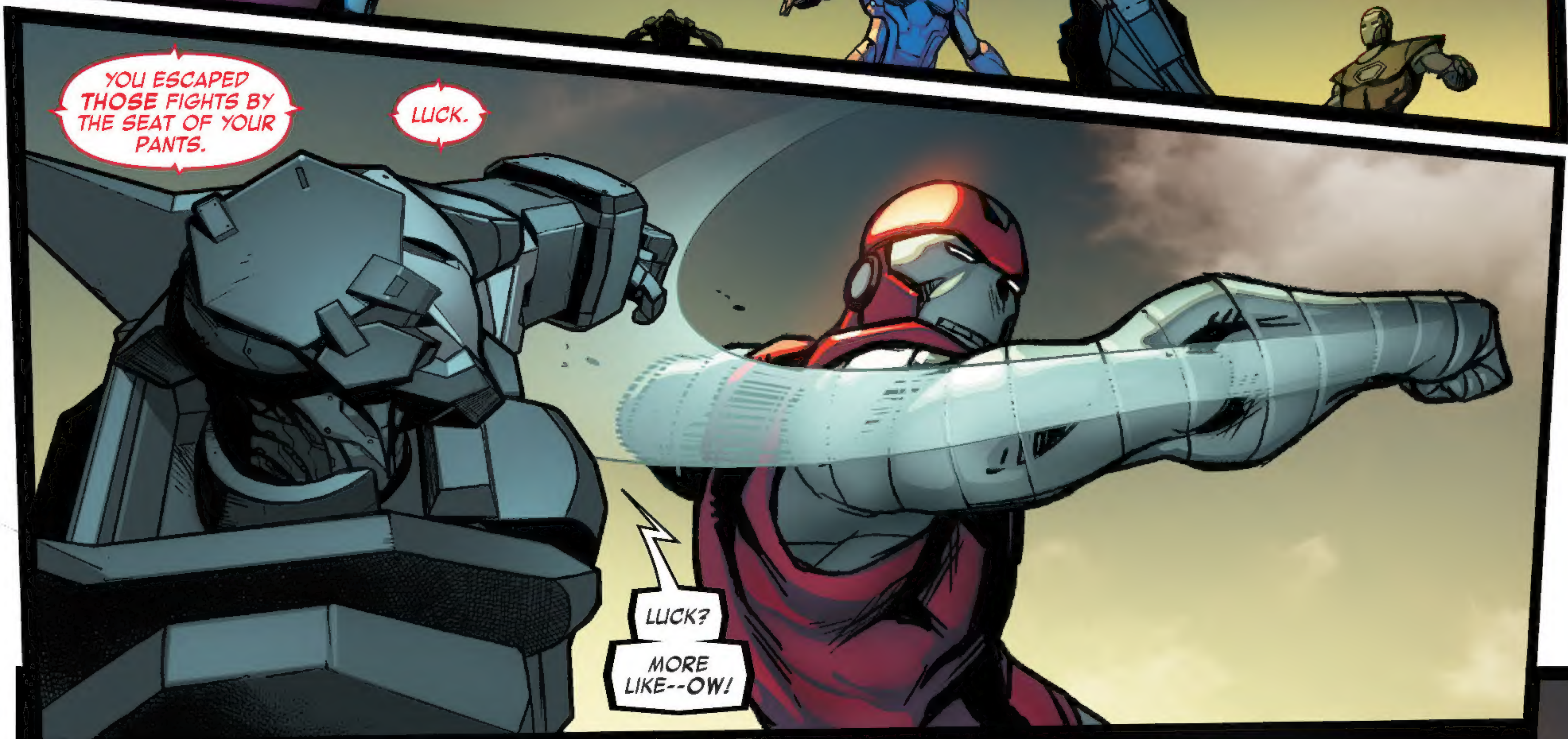
MIKE DEODATO, JR. & FRANK MARTIN; ANTHONY PIPER; PASCAL CAMPION
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

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DAN BUCKLEY **PUBLISHER** ALAN FINE **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

IRON MAN **CREATED BY** STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK **AND** JACK KIRBY



THIS IS HOW
YOU'RE GOING TO
TRAIN ME?





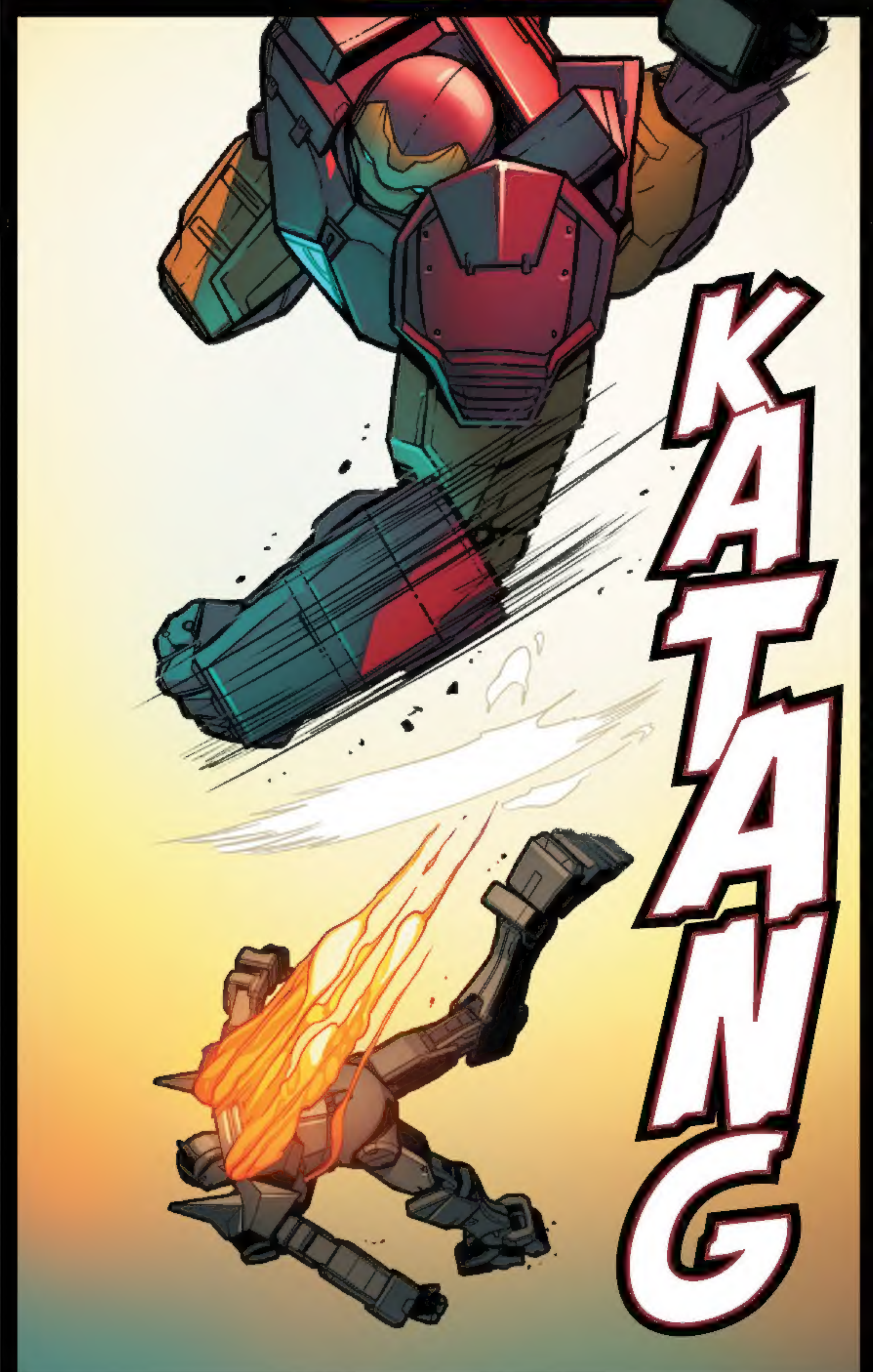
YOU KNOW, I
WON THOSE FIGHTS
YOU'RE TALKING
ABOUT.

DID
YOU?

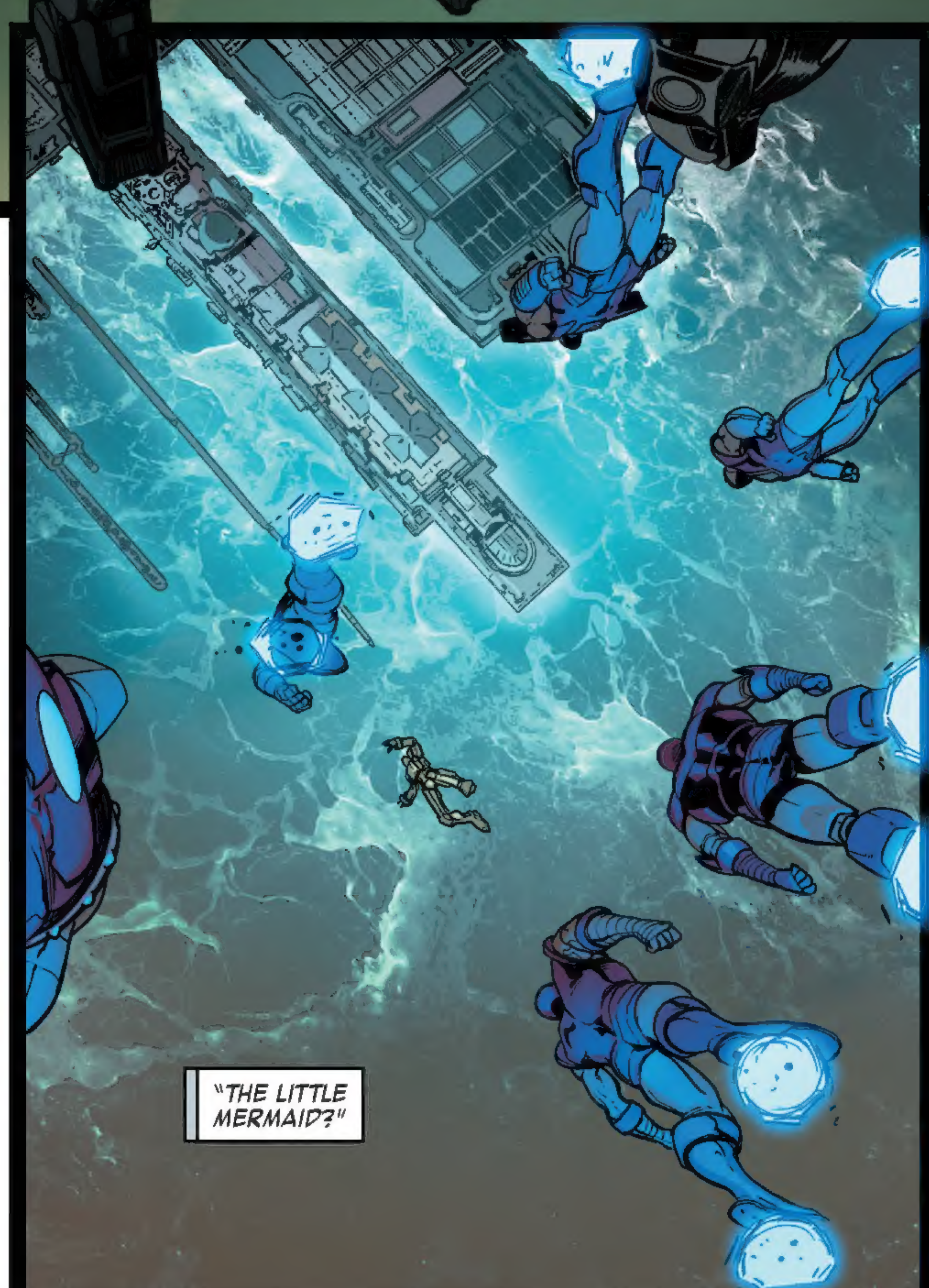
YES!

I'M NOT SAYING
I DON'T HAVE A LOT
TO LEARN, BUT--

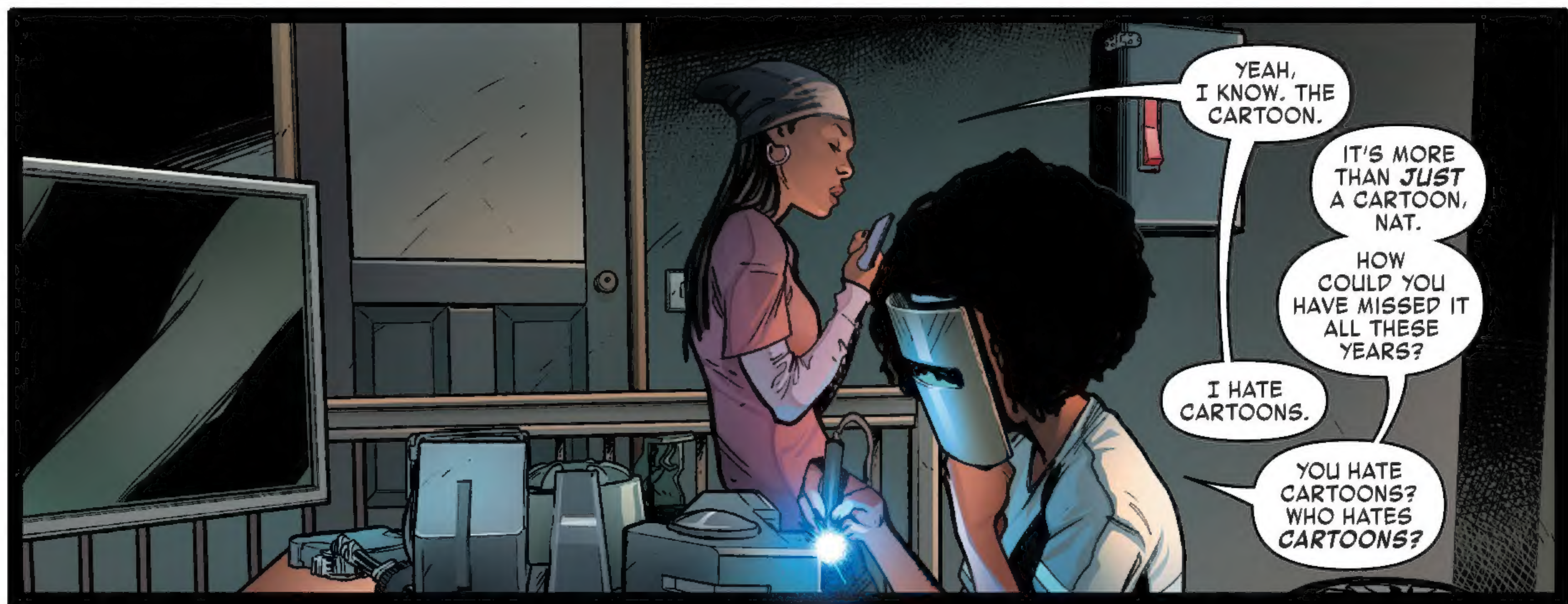
FSHAM
FSHAM
FSHAM
FSHAM



K
A
T
A
N
G



"THE LITTLE
MERMAID?"





ASK SOMEONE.

I DON'T TALK TO ANYONE BUT YOU.

UGGHH! I THOUGHT YOU HAD MY BACK.

TOMORROW AT THE PICNIC, IF HE IS THERE, I WILL HAVE YOUR BACK.

HE'S SO--HE'S JUST SO--

SO...?



HE'S SO DAMN FINE!

I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU LIKE THIS!

THIS MIGHT BE THE ONE.

OH, OKAY.

HE COULD BE THE ONE!

IT HAPPENS. YOU HEAR ABOUT IT.



WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING NOW?

ROCKET PACK.

HUH. OKAY. COOL.

YOU PROMISE YOU'LL HAVE MY BACK TOMORROW?

PROMISE.



I LOVE YOU.

LOVE YOU MORE.

WHY A ROCKET PACK?

REALLY?

I WANT TO FLY.

DON'T YOU?



NO. NOT EVEN A LITTLE.

SMELL YA LATER.



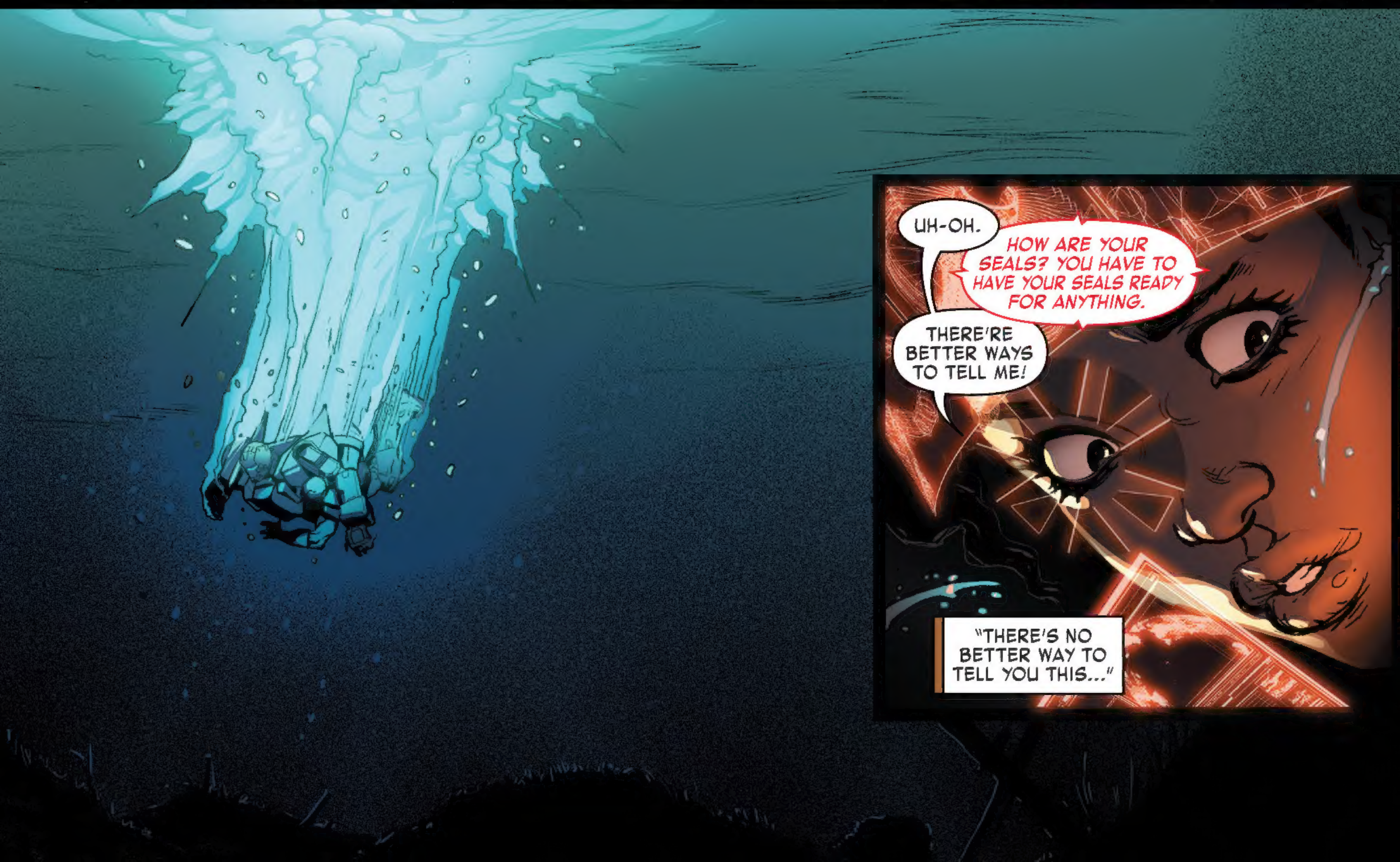
I'M GOING TO FLY.



NICE
SAVE.

WATCH
OUT BEHIND
YOU.

WHAT?



UH-OH.

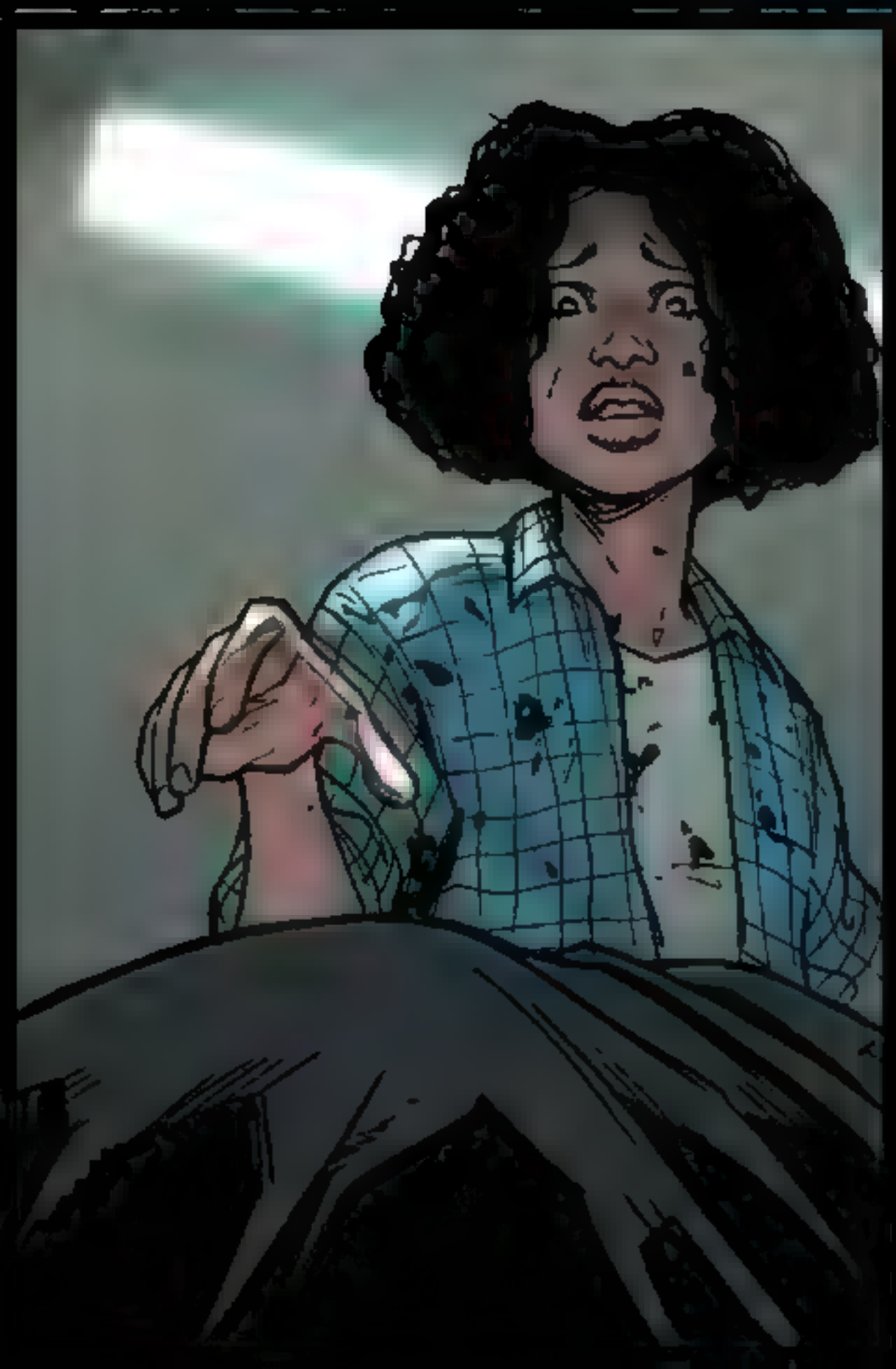
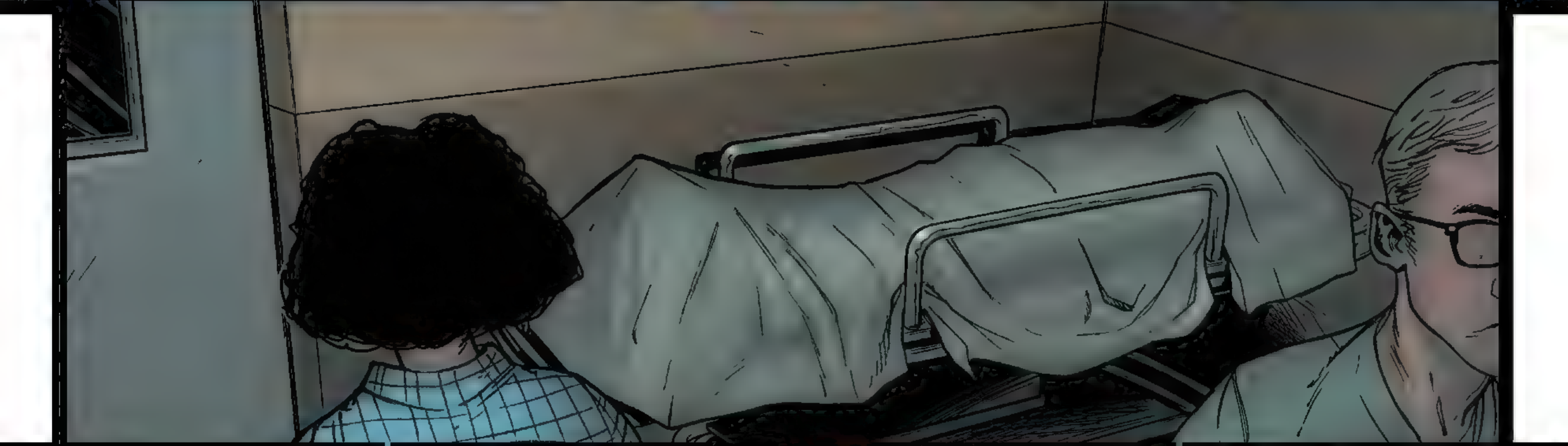
HOW ARE YOUR
SEALS? YOU HAVE TO
HAVE YOUR SEALS READY
FOR ANYTHING.

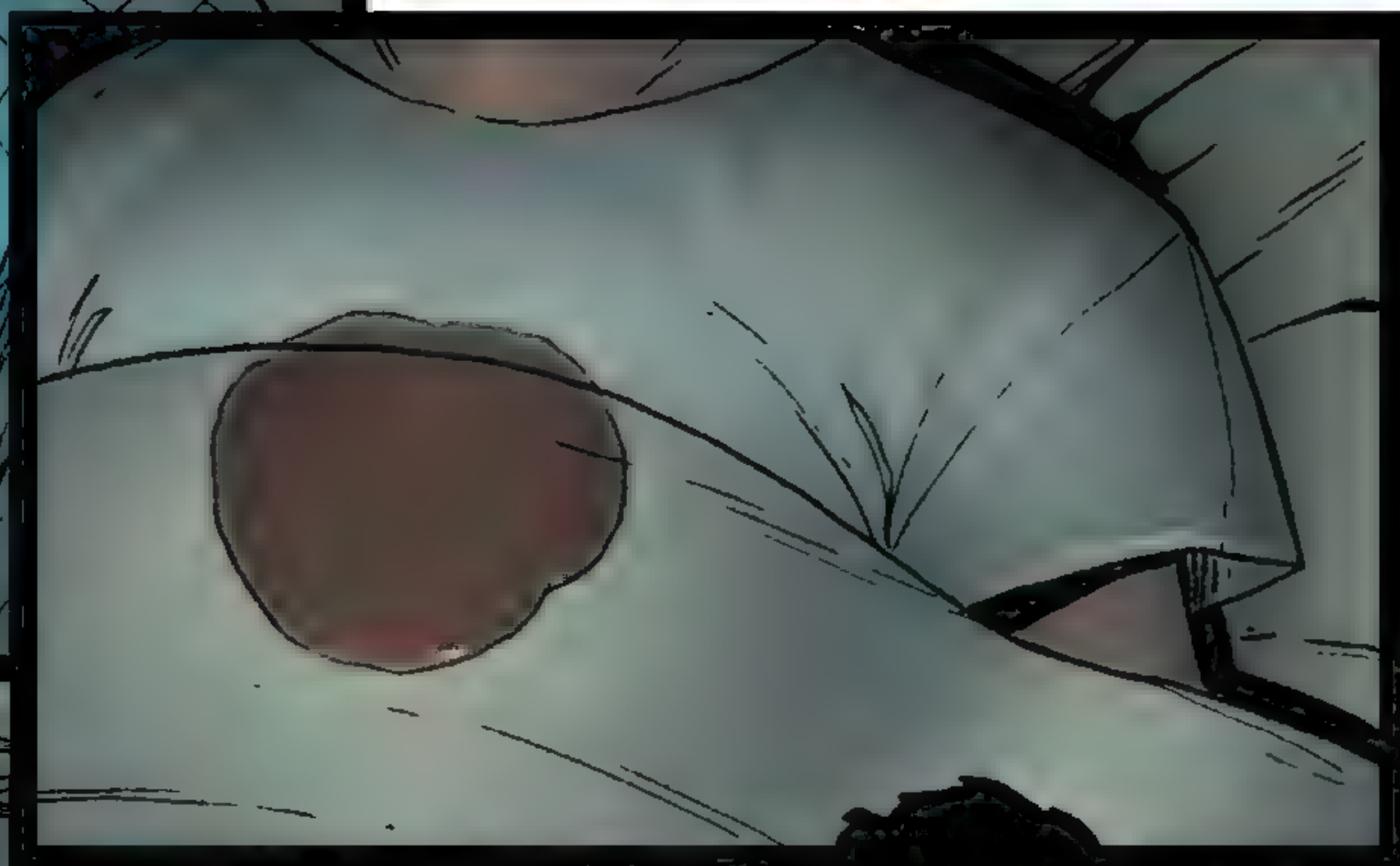
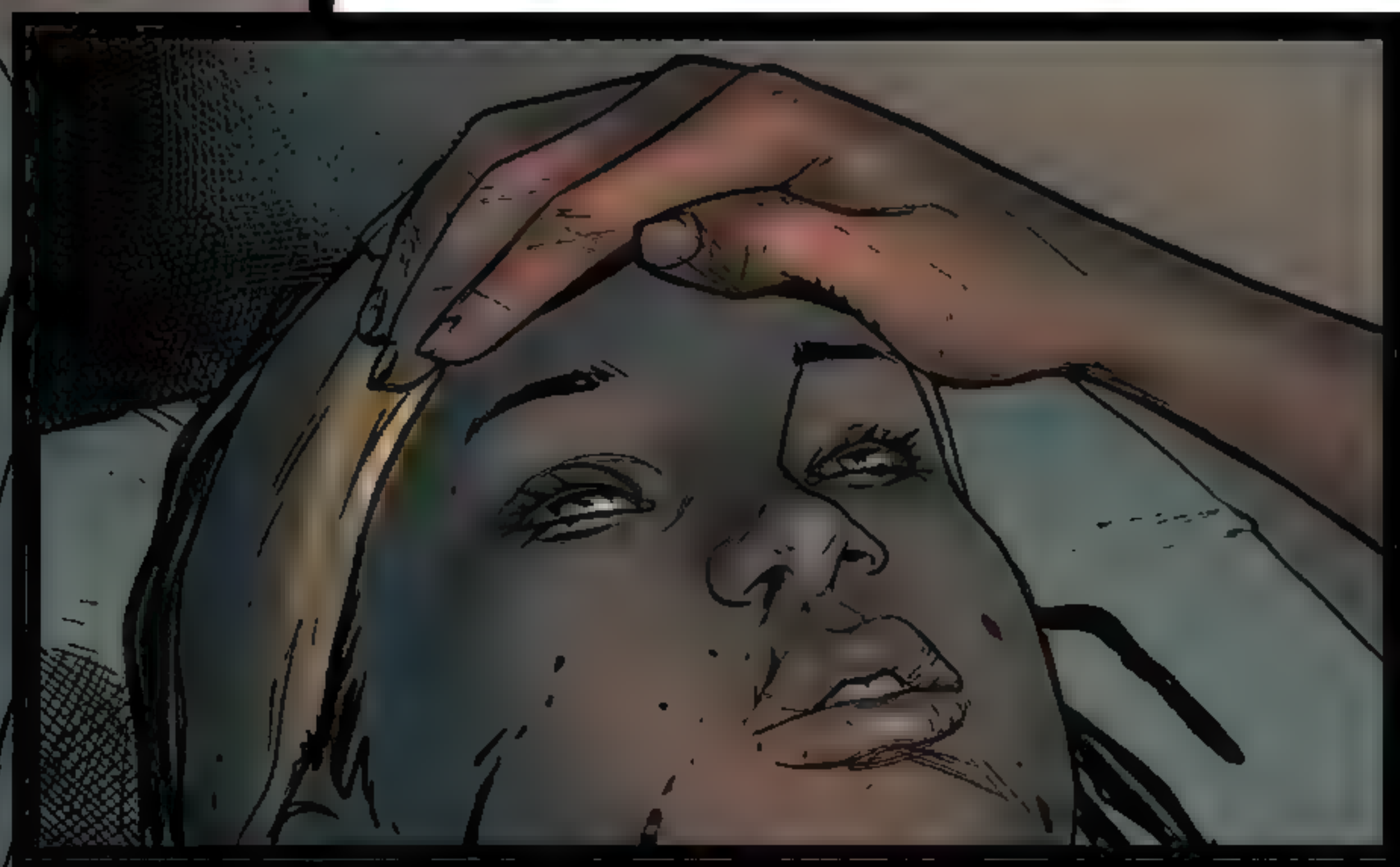
THERE'RE
BETTER WAYS
TO TELL ME!

"THERE'S NO
BETTER WAY TO
TELL YOU THIS..."

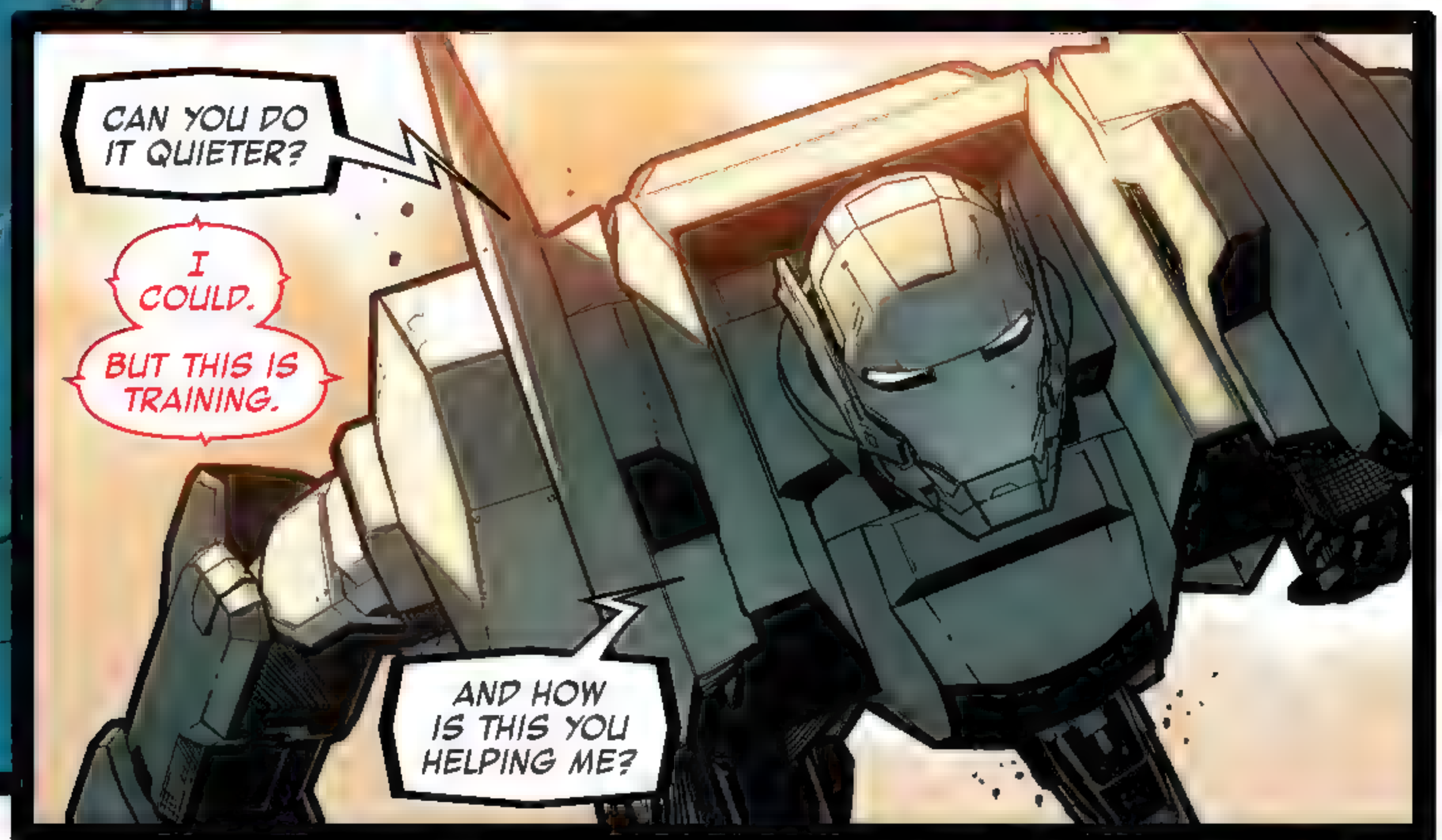
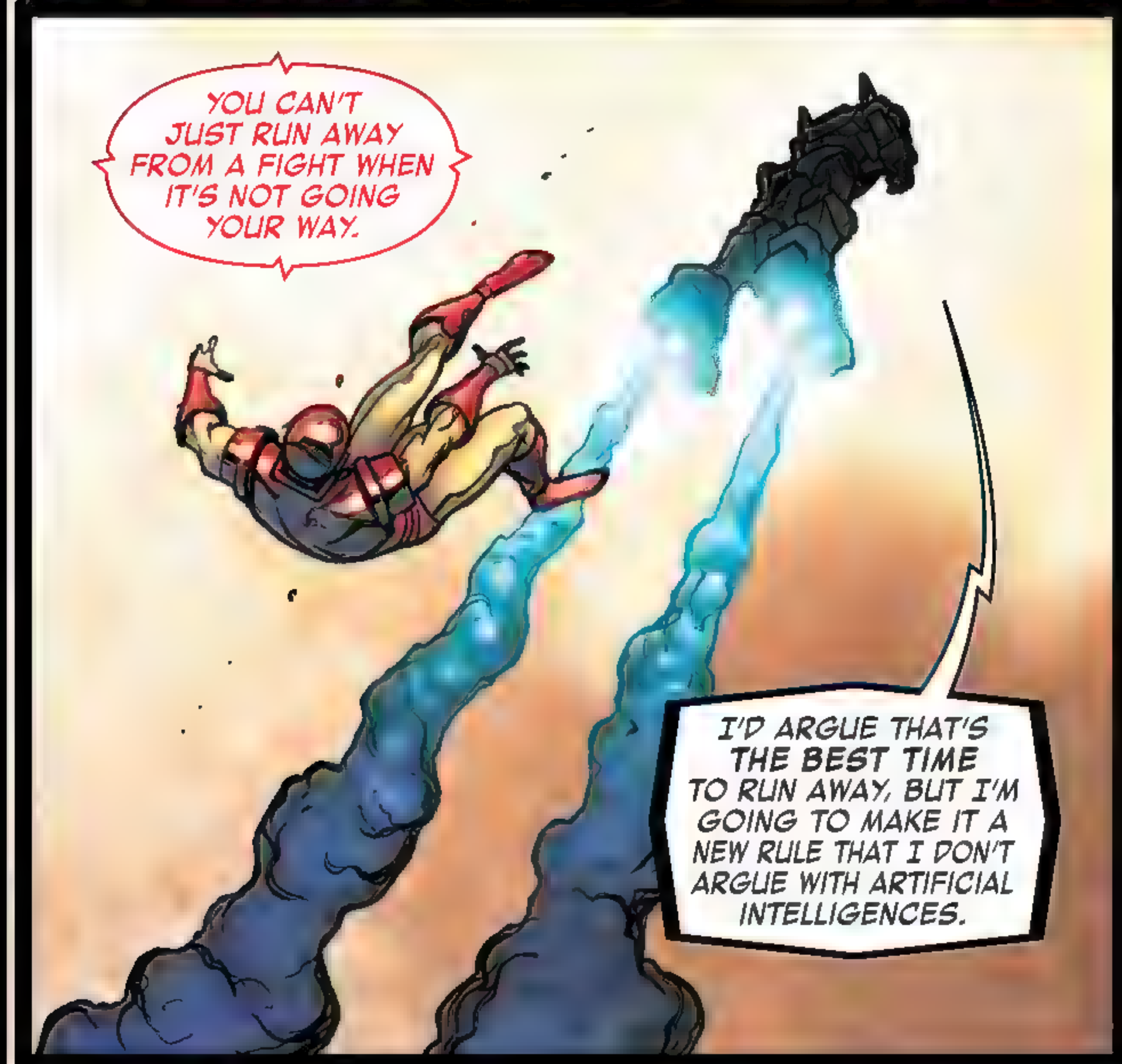
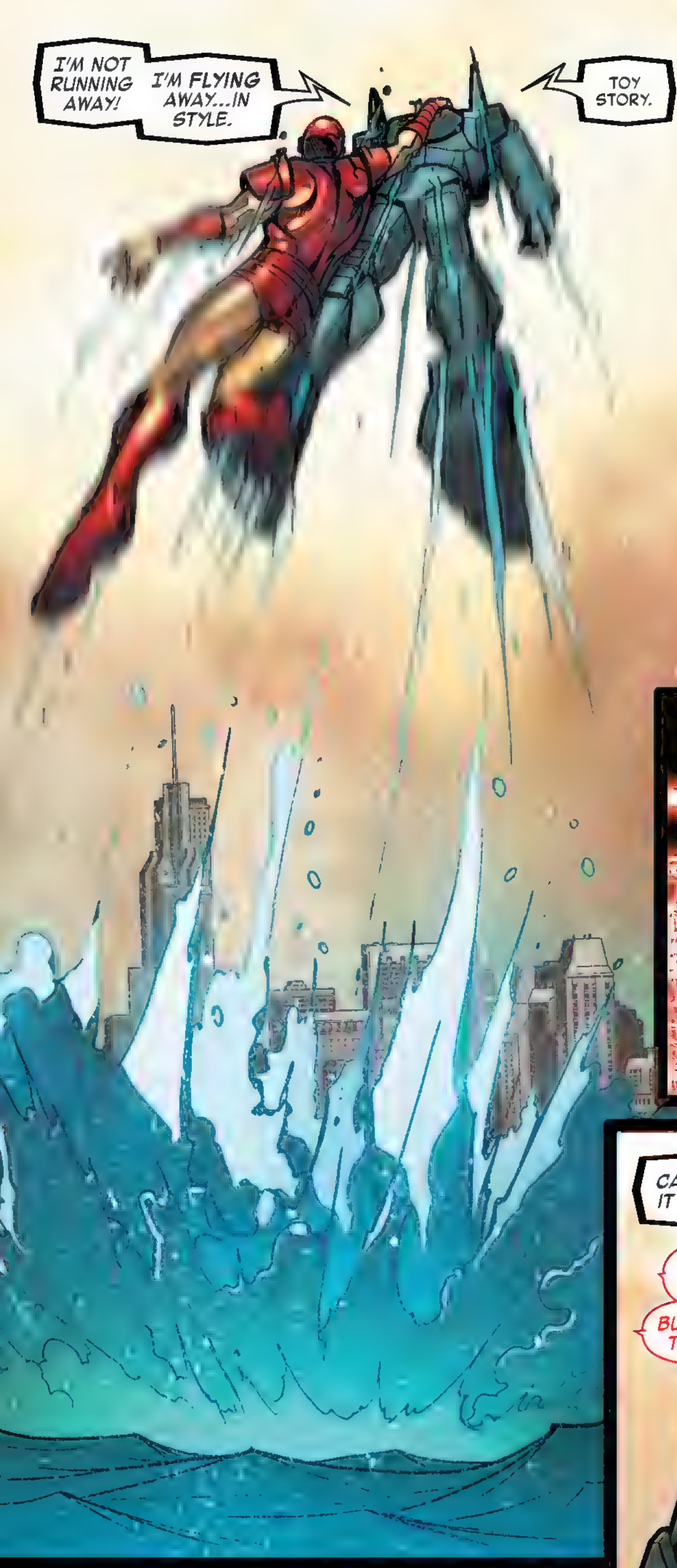
CHICAGO.
TWO YEARS AGO.

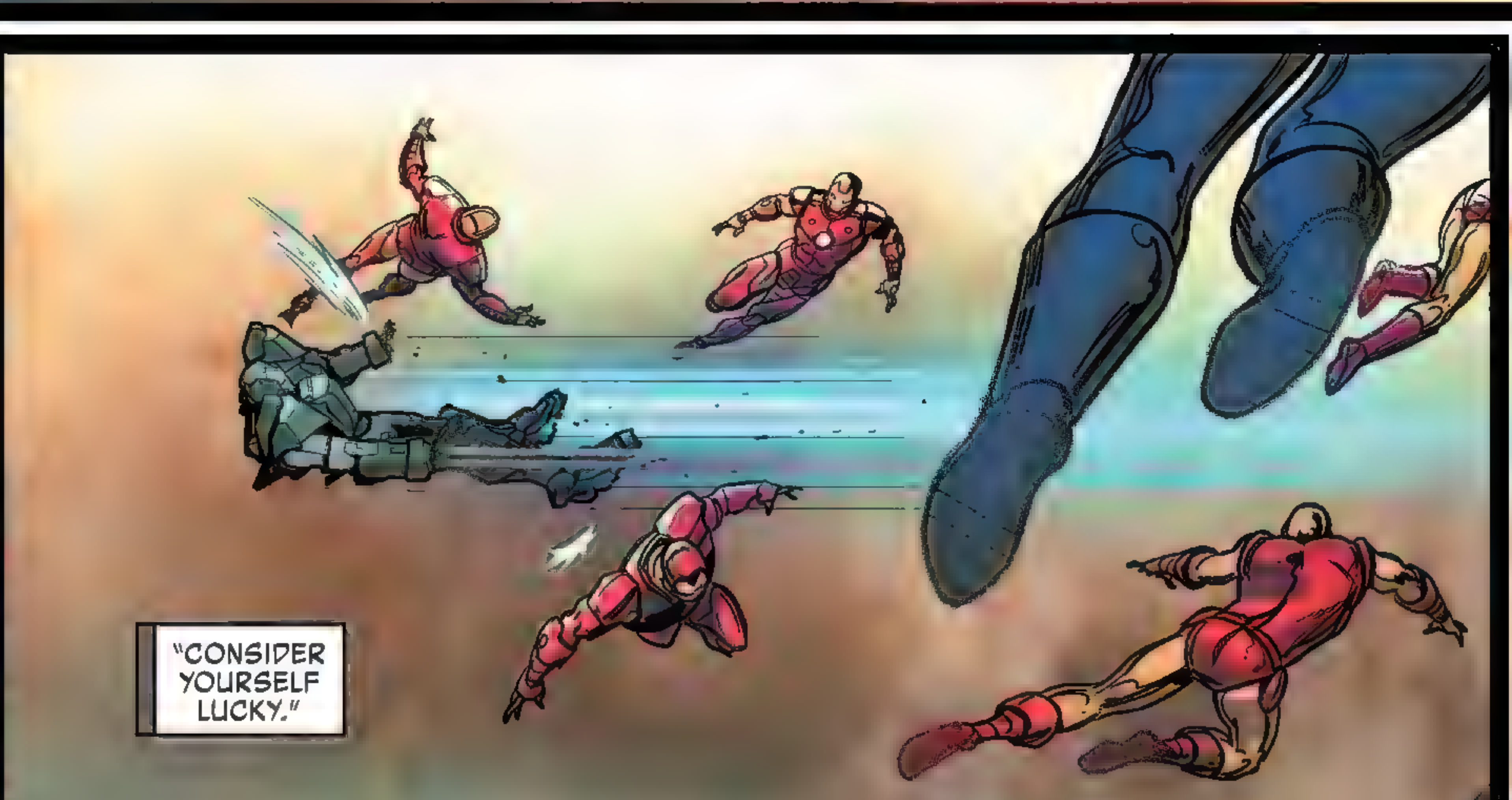
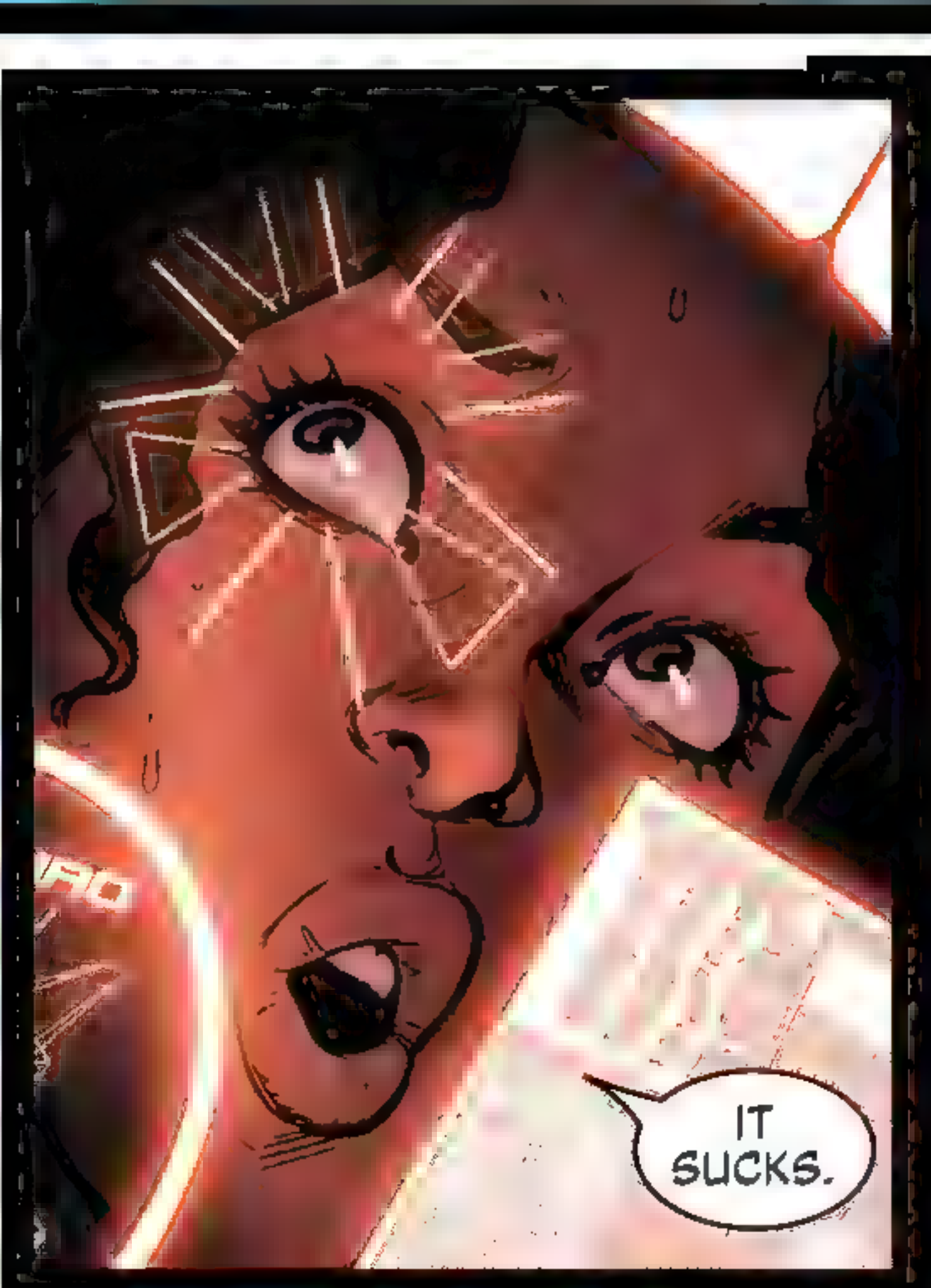
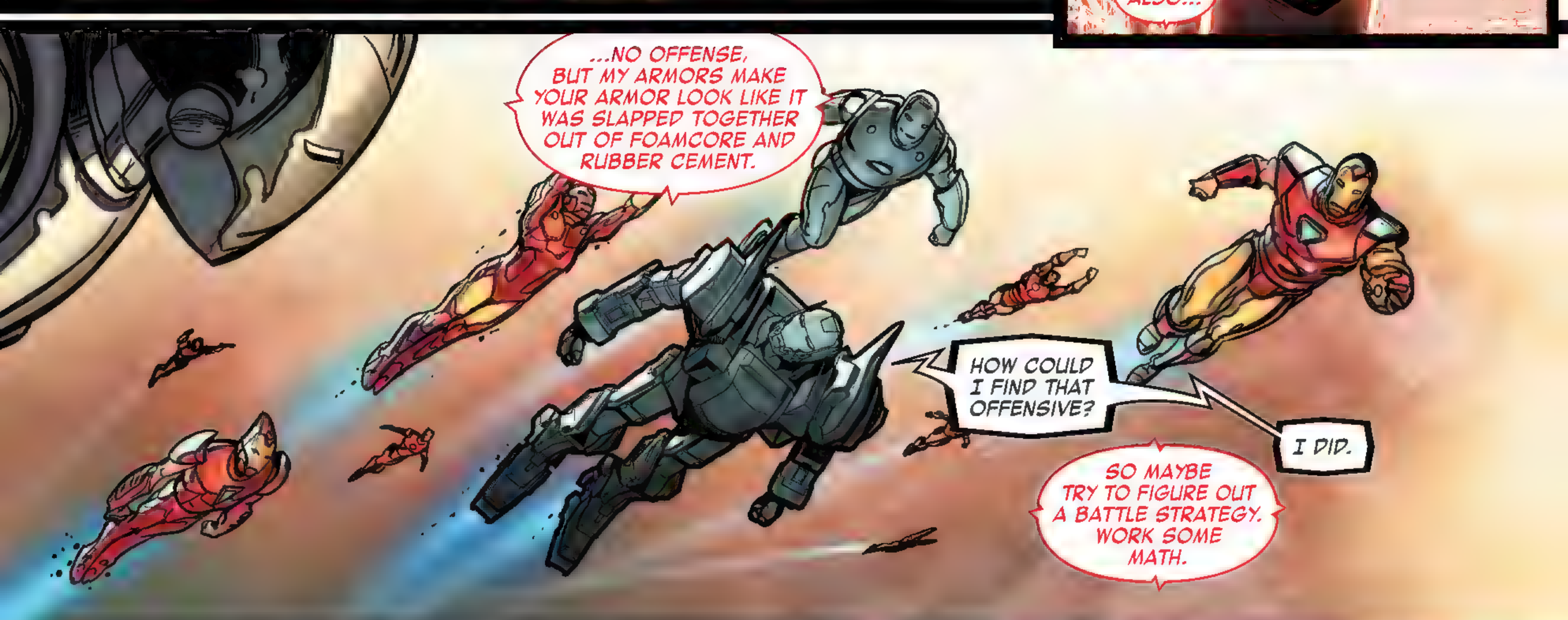
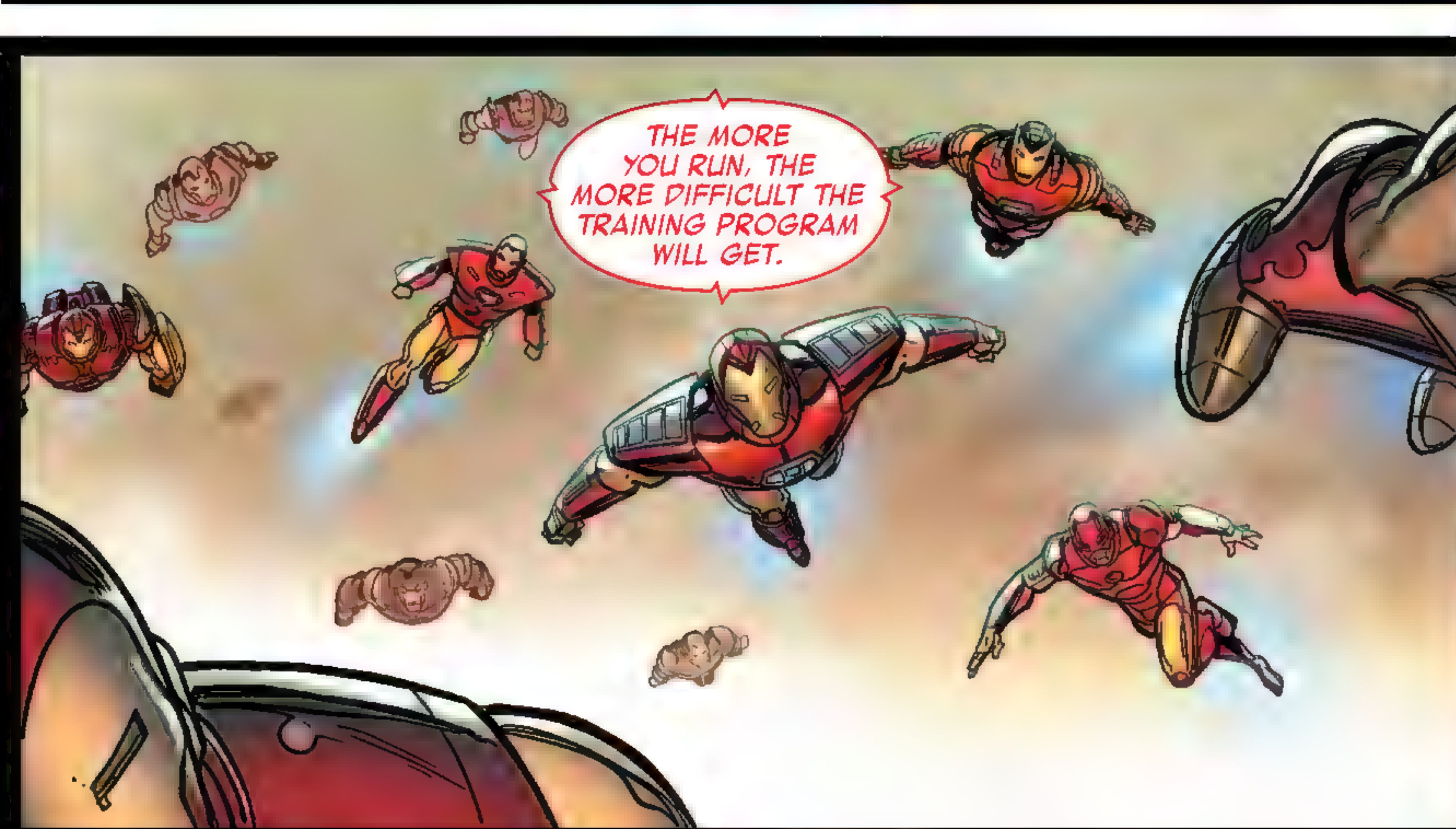














WHEN
BULLETS ARE
FLYING LIKE THAT...
YOU'RE LUCKY TO
BE ALIVE.

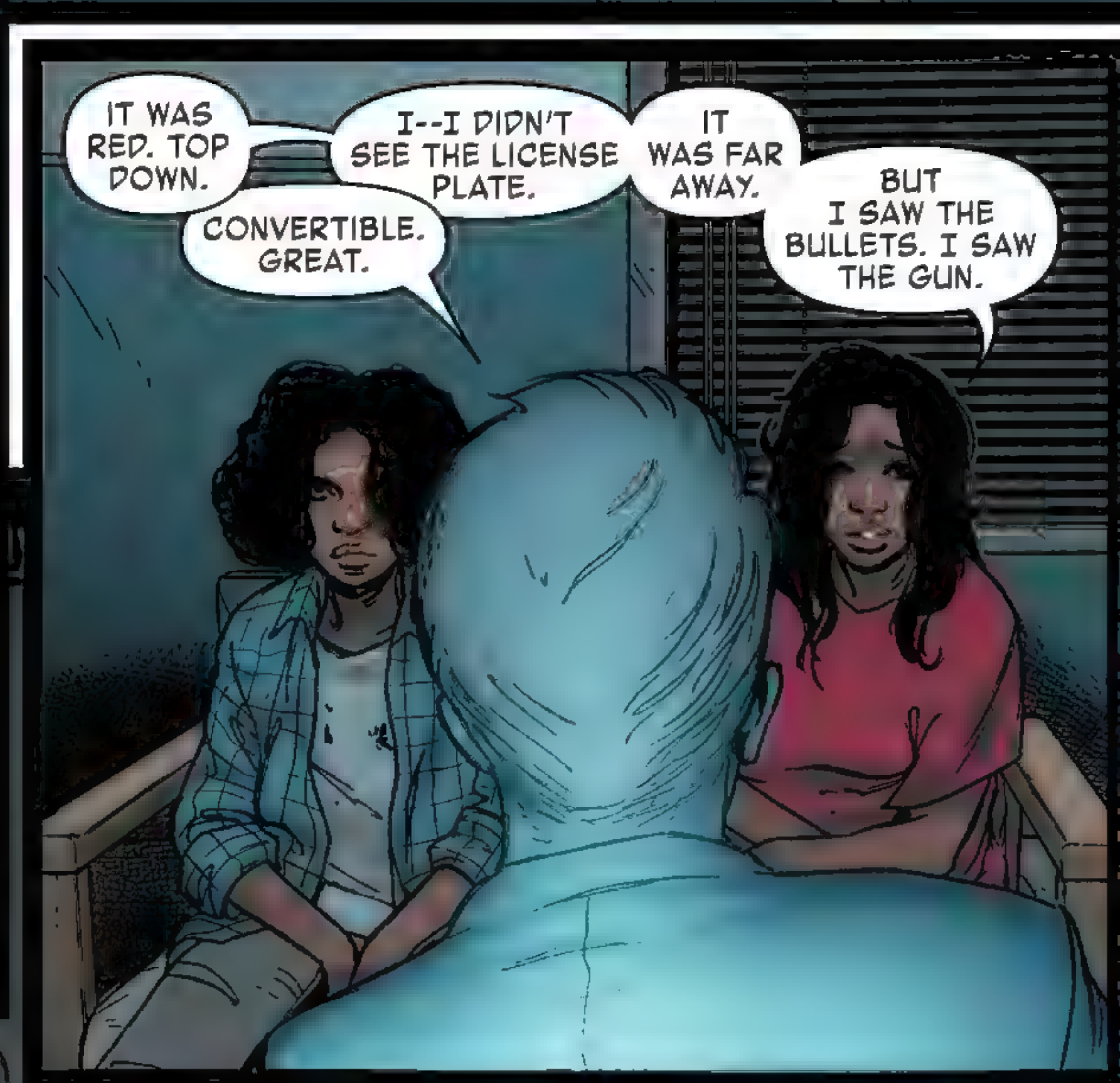
PLEASE STOP
SAYING THINGS LIKE
THAT, DETECTIVE.



WELL,
YOU CAN'T SEE IT
TODAY, BUT YOU'RE
ALIVE.

AND YOU
CAN HONOR THE
MEMORY OF YOUR LATE
HUSBAND BY TELLING
ME ANYTHING
YOU SAW.

THE
MAKE OF THE
CAR.



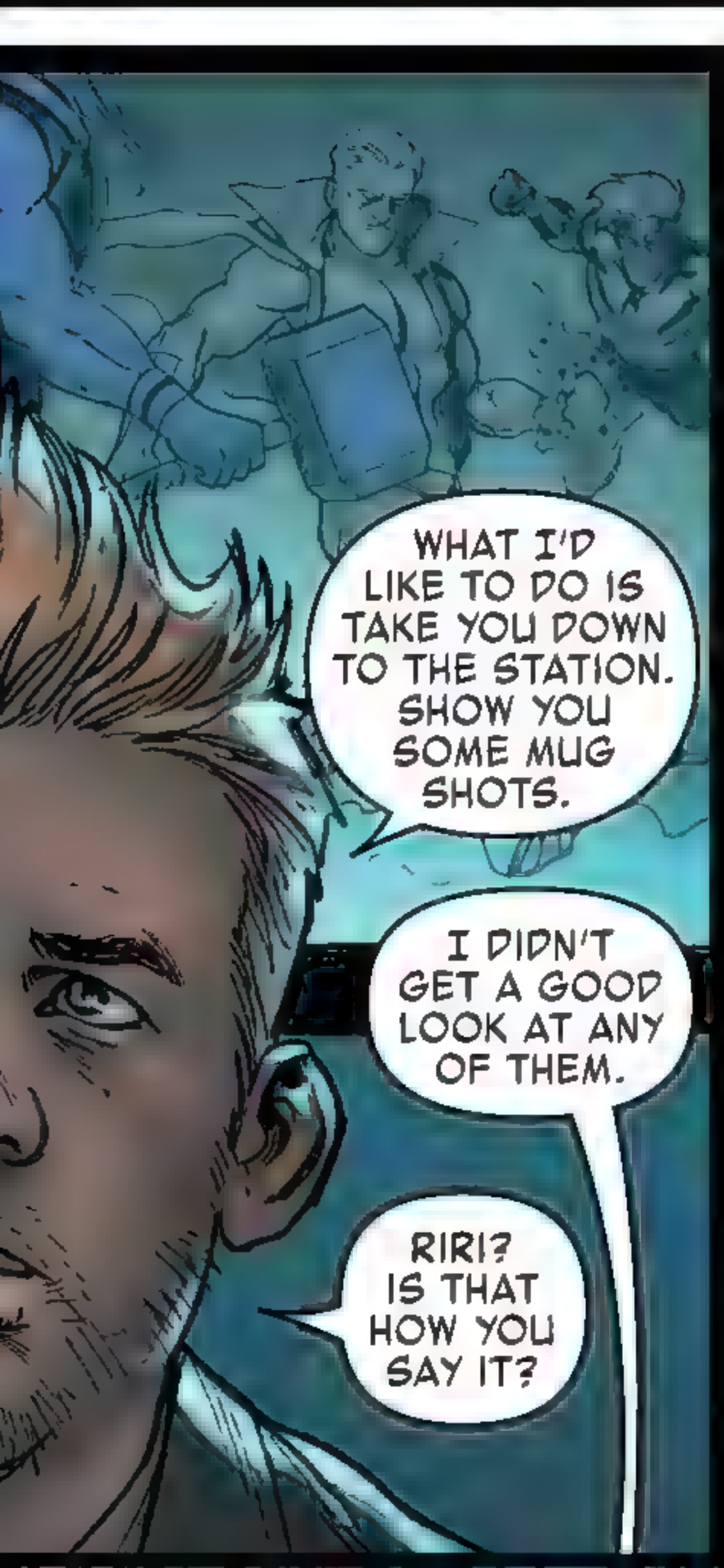
IT WAS
RED. TOP
DOWN.

I--I DIDN'T
SEE THE LICENSE
PLATE.

IT
WAS FAR
AWAY.

CONVERTIBLE.
GREAT.

BUT
I SAW THE
BULLETS. I SAW
THE GUN.



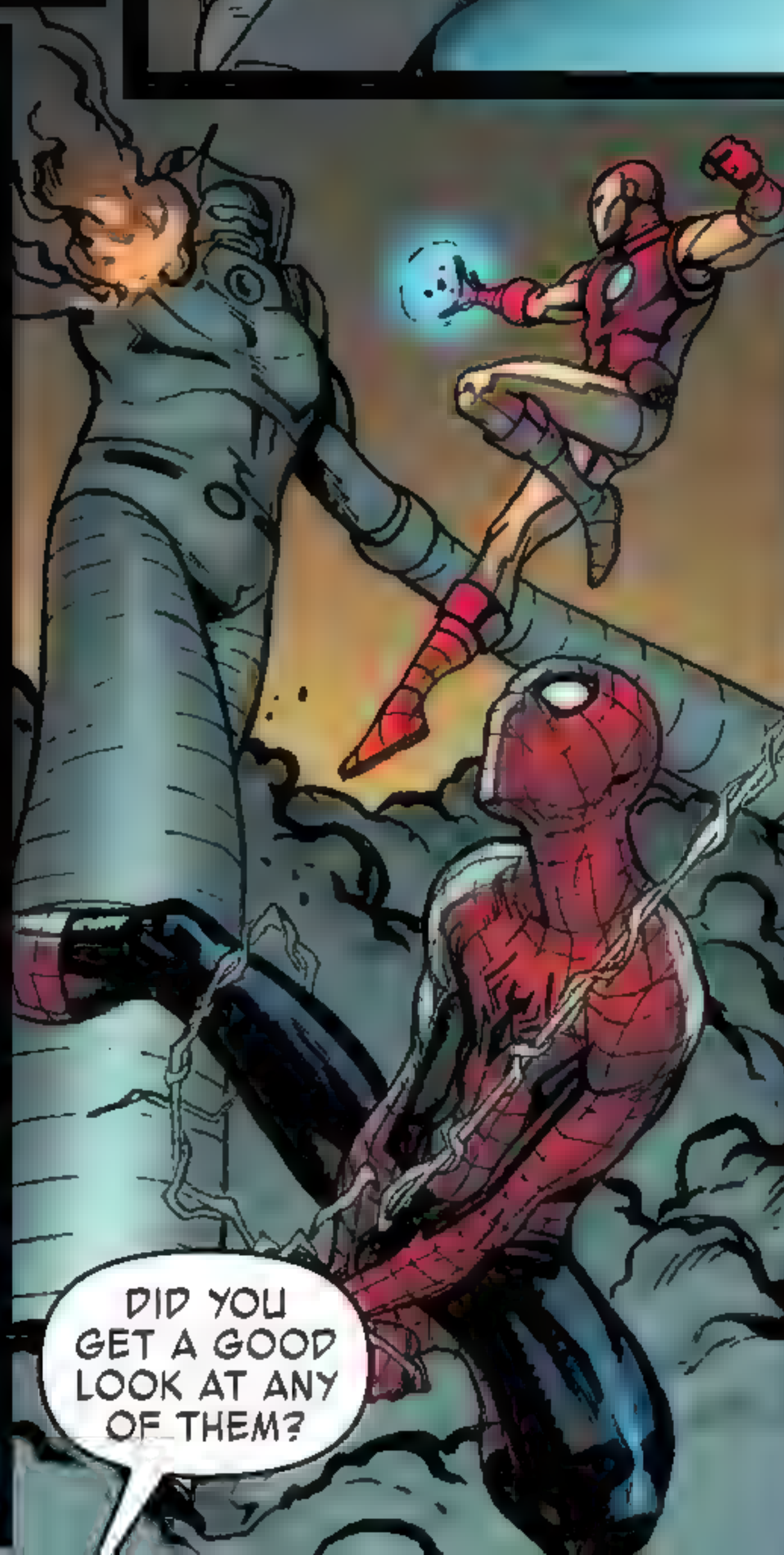
WHAT I'D
LIKE TO DO IS
TAKE YOU DOWN
TO THE STATION.
SHOW YOU
SOME MUG
SHOTS.

I DIDN'T
GET A GOOD
LOOK AT ANY
OF THEM.

RIRI?
IS THAT
HOW YOU
SAY IT?



HMM?



DID YOU
GET A GOOD
LOOK AT ANY
OF THEM?



I HAVE A
QUESTION.

YES?

HOW
AM I STILL
ALIVE?



LIM--



WHY
NATALIE AND
NOT ME?

WHY
MY STEPPAD
AND NOT MY
MOM?



IT'S,
WELL, IT WAS
RANDOM...

I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TO SAY...

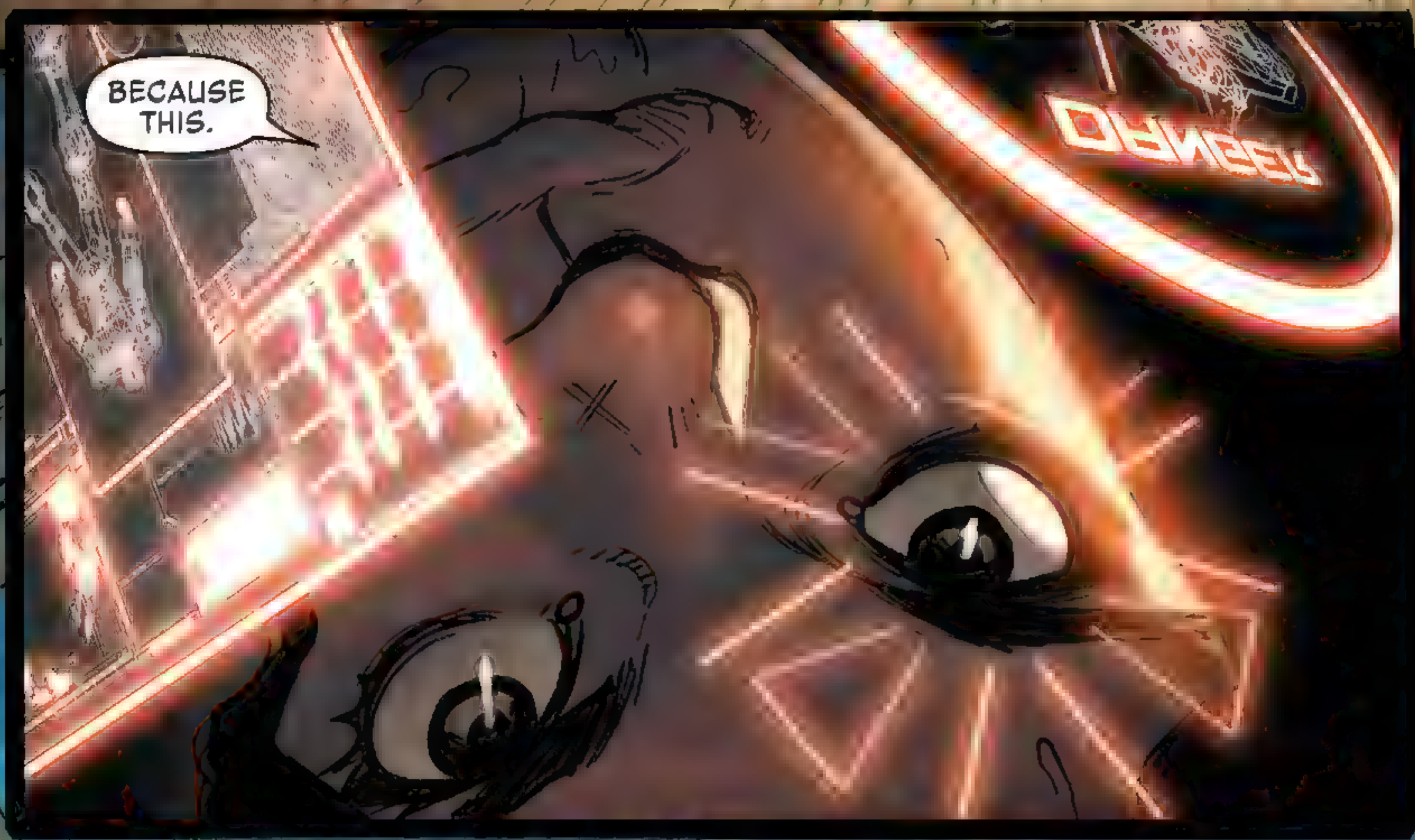


"THIS ISN'T
THE ANSWER."



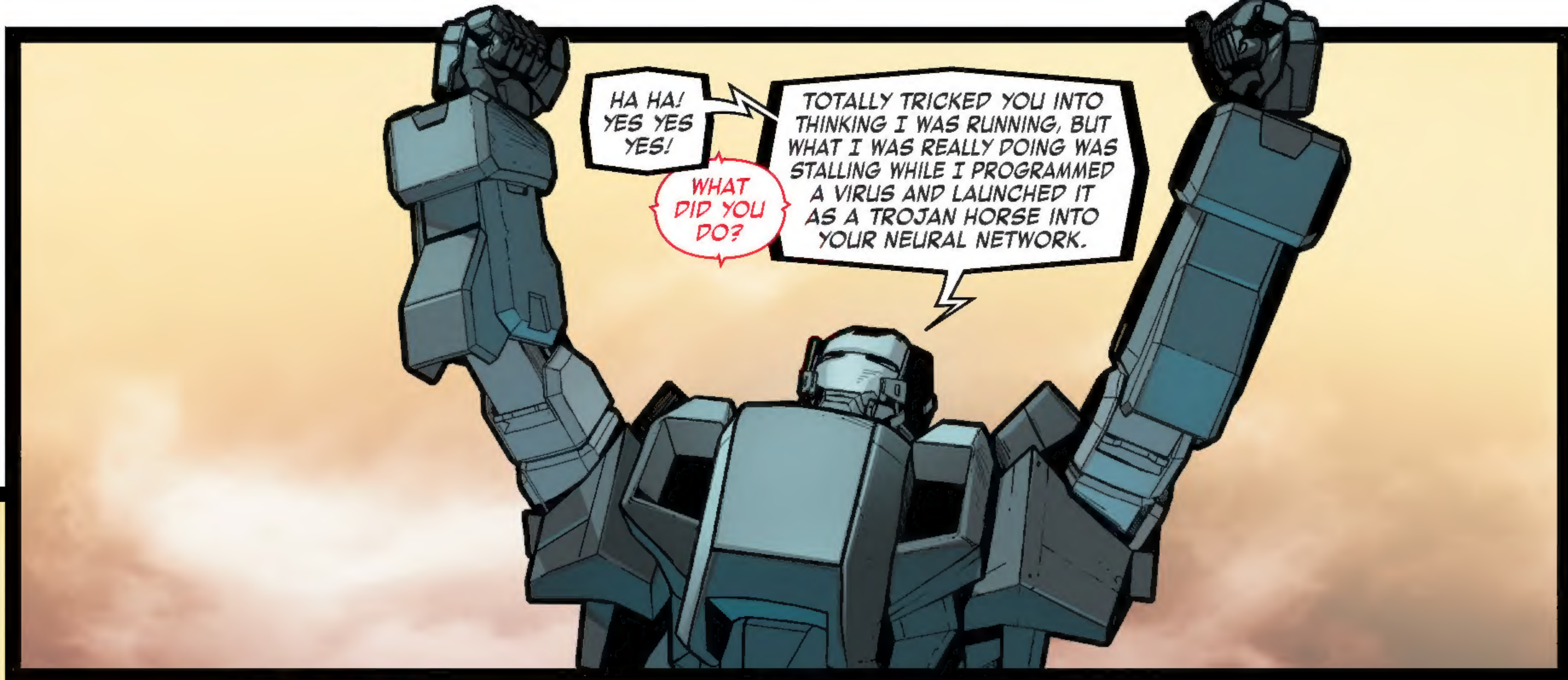
I KNOW.

THEN WHY DO YOU KEEP RUNNING WHEN YOU KNOW I'M GOING TO KEEP CHASING?



BECAUSE THIS.





HA HA!
YES YES
YES!

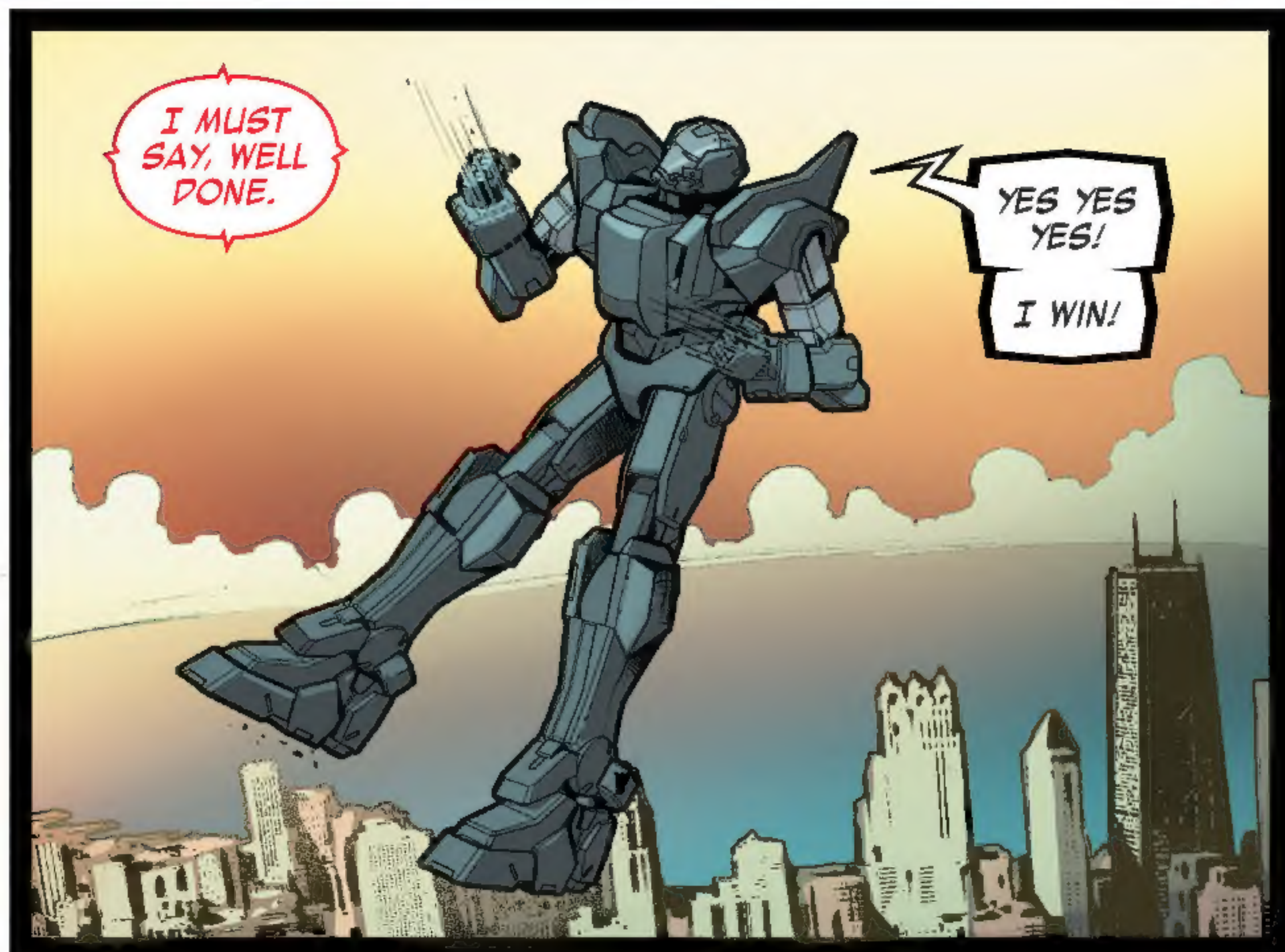
WHAT
DID YOU
DO?

TOTALLY TRICKED YOU INTO
THINKING I WAS RUNNING, BUT
WHAT I WAS REALLY DOING WAS
STALLING WHILE I PROGRAMMED
A VIRUS AND LAUNCHED IT
AS A TROJAN HORSE INTO
YOUR NEURAL NETWORK.



SPLASHH

KERPLOP



I MUST
SAY, WELL
DONE.

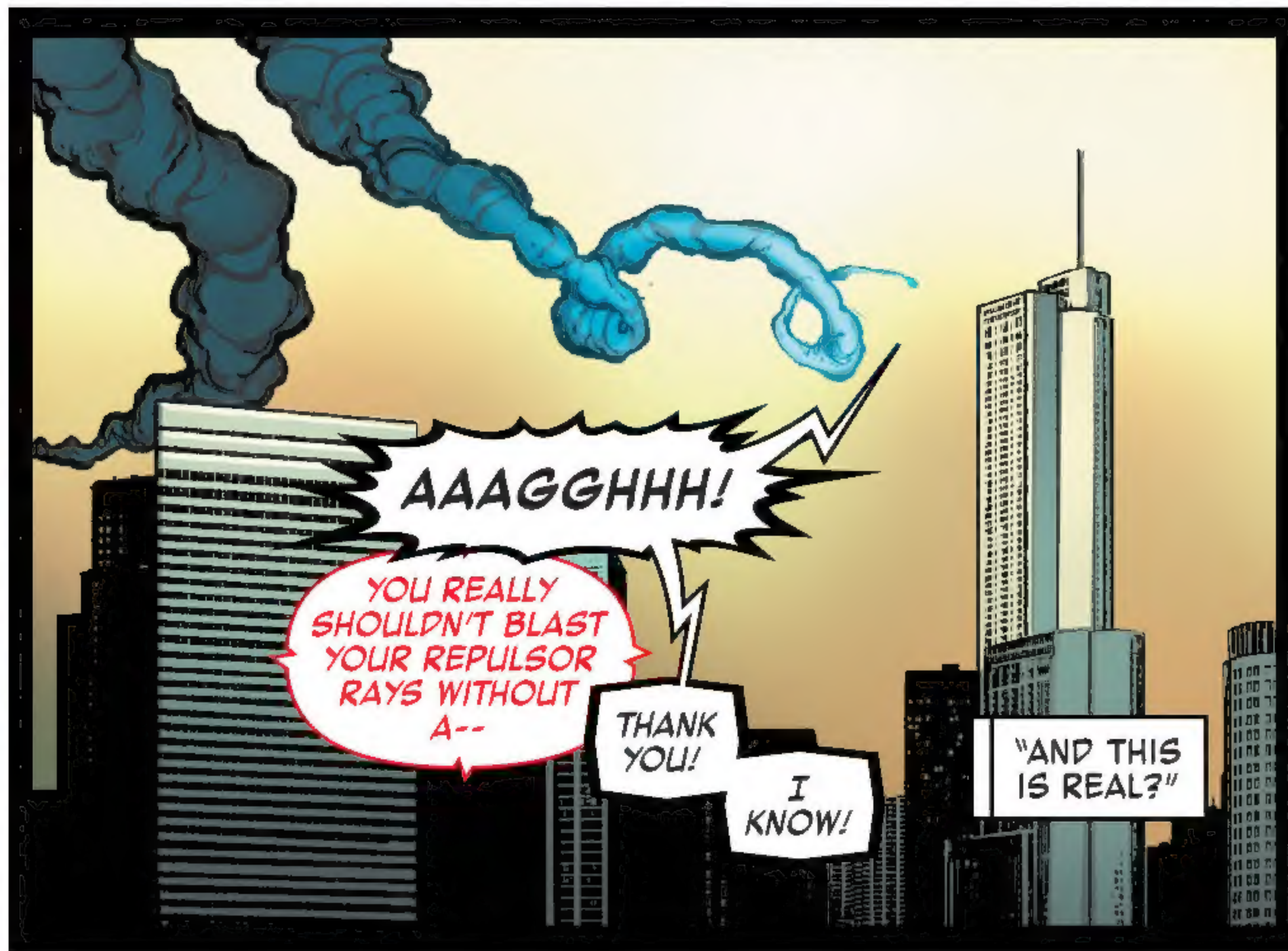
YES YES
YES!
I WIN!



YOU DIDN'T
THINK I EVEN--

FSSHHAAAM

WAAAGGGHHH!



AAAGGGHHH!

YOU REALLY
SHOULDN'T BLAST
YOUR REPULSOR
RAYS WITHOUT
A--

THANK
YOU!

I
KNOW!

"AND THIS
IS REAL?"



AS FAR
AS WE CAN
TELL.

MULTIPLE
AMERICANS FILMED
THIS ALTERCATION
AND POSTED IT
ONLINE.

IT HAS
"GONE VIRAL," AS
THEY SAY OVER
THERE.

A
NEW IRON
MAN.

AND
HE TOOK OUT
THE OLD ONE. ALL
OF THE OLD
ONES.



I THOUGHT
WE WERE TOLD
TONY STARK WAS NO
LONGER AMONG
THE LIVING.

THAT IS WHAT
WE WERE TOLD,
TOMOE.

WELL, THEN,
IF THAT *IS* TONY
STARK, I WOULD LIKE
HIM DESTROYED
IMMEDIATELY.

AND IF
THIS IS NOT HIM,
WHATEVER THAT IS,
WHOEVER THAT
IS...



...WE NEED TO SHUT
THEM DOWN.

BEFORE IT
GETS OUT OF HAND
AND RUINS EVERYTHING
WE ARE ATTEMPTING
TO DO HERE.

WE CAN'T
TAKE THE CHANCE
AGAIN.

THE NEW
IRON MAN MUST
DIE.

QUICKLY.

DO THAT
FOR ME, WILL
YOU?

TO BE CONTINUED...

SOCK IT TO SHELL-HEAD!

Send letters to **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and don't forget to mark them **"OKAY TO PRINT!"**

Hey Shell-Heads, this is assistant editor Alanna Smith and I...have still seen no cosplay pics!!! I know you're out there, gorgeous Riri cosplayers--hit a girl with a sweet letters page up! While we're waiting for the cosplayers, let's take a look at your letters!

I love Riri! I love that she is a strong and intelligent African-American female. She will inspire so many. This issue really grabbed my attention and I am so excited to read more and see how Riri grows and evolves. The tragedy that she faced was very moving and there is a real human quality to her. The fact that she is a super genius does not make her feel unreachable. The way this issue was written and created allows the reader to find the similarities between the character and themselves. I am so excited for more!

Thanks,
Eric Potter

Thanks, Eric! I connect with Riri myself because I, too, get so wrapped up in my work that I forget to eat much of anything. I really need to hire an assistant to throw granola bars at me when I start to growl at interns.

Hi Alanna,

Thank you for this amazing, awesome first issue of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN that kicks off Riri's debut as Ironheart with the celebration she deserves! While I understand that some fans aren't happy about the change, I wanted to highlight my experience. I was so excited when it was announced that Riri Williams would take over that I picked up the reprints of the issues of INVINCIBLE IRON MAN that had her in the storyline to start catching up. Aside from having watched the AVENGERS and IRON MAN Marvel movies, I had never read an IRON MAN comic. Now, I'm a fan and I'm hooked.

Switching up stories like these and breathing fresh life into them also pulls in new fans like me who will stick around even if Tony Stark does resume the mantle, so this is a great thing for the franchise! On a personal note, as a Black person it's so awesome to have Riri to identify with--she's very empowering, and given everything going on in the world, she brings a much needed dose of fun. I Look forward to reading more of Riri's adventures!

Jose A. Monzon

Hey, Jose! Thanks for sharing your experience with Riri--I hope we get to tell many more stories with her, and I hope you continue to enjoy the book!

Hey Alanna,

You printed my letters in #14, the last issue of the previous volume and in the first issue of the new re-launch. It's great to have an email in a #1, even if there are a lot of those NOWadays! (see what I did there?) I noticed the printed version was a

clever William Burroughs "cut-up" of my two most recent emails, immediately improving the comprehension for other readers, but pointing them to the wrong issue for Brian's eloquent response on writing; it was in issue #13 rather than #14.

Another fine number one with smooth, easy-on-the-eye art by Stefano Caselli and tasteful coloring by Marte Gracia. Brian filling in Riri's tragic history with the senseless park shooting of her friend, Natalie and her stepdad as well as the innocents caught in the crossfire. I loved the appearance of the A.I. Tony Stark as a splash page cliffhanger, but I'm a bit confused. Something's happened to Tony that I'm not aware of. Could this be due to CIVIL WAR II running late? Some titles are dealing with the aftermath of CWII but we're still waiting for issues #7 & #8 so there are a few blanks to fill in.

'Nuff said,
Bruce Marsh

You caught me, Bruce! I tend to run out of space on the letters pages, so sometimes letters get smushed together. Hopefully you were not too distressed! And you are correct, Tony's fate will be revealed in CIVIL WAR II #8. We're working hard on it even as I type this!

Dear Invincible Alanna,

I want to apologize for my poor English, it is not my first language. I have read INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1. Thank you for bringing me such an interesting issue and this new character.

In my opinion, a man who chooses to be a hero should always have a reason or a deeper consideration than normal people, or they are only a man who has super powers, so I am curious about Riri's reason. I knew some of Tony's reason: he chose to become Iron Man after he built armor and escaped from terrorist with the help and sacrifice of Yinsen. He wanted to change himself and this world, to make this world better, as a futurist.

In INVINCIBLE IRON MAN #1, I saw both Riri and her parents are confused about what they can do. Riri said her father telling her every day is fine, like she would be Doctor Doom if there was something wrong. I think he just wanted to tell his daughter she would find her own way one day, and that before that day, she can also enjoy her life. I am sorry to see that tragedy happened after that. I am reading INFAMOUS IRON MAN in the meantime, so I think maybe I can see what the real meaning is of "it depends on who is in the armor."

Riri is a talented, open-minded and interesting kid. Honestly, I am very sad to realize that Tony cannot give his mother a hug now. But the byte-type Tony is very interesting. Can't wait to see the next issue. (and I miss Friday...) Thanks again, the art is excellent. Keep up the good work!

Liu

Thanks for writing in, Liu! Sorry that English is such a weird language. Brian's doing a lot of interesting things with Riri's decision to be a hero--specifically, an armored hero like Tony. I think you'll enjoy seeing that question answered over the course of the series! (And keep an eye out for Friday--she's not gone by a long shot!)

Hats off to Bendis, Caselli and Gracia. I know there's been a lot of hype surrounding the surfacing of Riri Williams, but wow, did this team nail it. Love the Ironheart name, the artwork is incredible and Riri's back story is incredibly compelling. We're only on issue #1 and I've already been drawn into her Marvel Universe Super Hero Struggle (MUSHS?). She makes me wish I had her when I was in junior high and high school to inspire me to apply myself more. Not to mention college and beyond. I suppose we all could probably use a bit more Riri in our lives. Inspiration to be better. Because we're "not there yet" and "it's a nice day."

Dan Zimney

Glad you're enjoying the book, Dan! My Marvel Universe Super Hero Struggle is that I have not yet found a way to make Quicksilver 1) real, and 2) married to me. I tried to pitch that plotline to Brian and he just stared at me while slowly pulling the limbs off of my Quicksilver Minifig and eating them.

But now I have said too much. Forget what you heard here--aren't iron suits of armor just the coolest? Golly gee, do I wish I had one. Keep sending your letters and I'll keep answering them with my usual mix of poise and professionalism. Until next time!

NEXT ISSUE:



NEW FRIENDS, OLD ENEMIES

